Russians Strong In Speed Skating, Hockey For Winter Olympic Debut

By RICHARD K. O'MALLEY

MOSCOW (AP)—Soviet Russia makes its first appearance in winter Olympics at Cortina a few weeks hence and sports bosses around here are keeping pretty mum about prospects.

They are known to be strong in two departments: Hockey and speed skating.

M. M. Peslyak, vice-president of both the Soviet sports committee and its Olympics committee, says the Russian contingent at Cortina will number between 125 and 130 persons with 90 to 95 of them actual contestants. They will enter all skiing events, speed skating and hockey. They will not enter bobsledding "because that sport has never been cultivated in the Soviet Union."

NO FIGURE SKATERS

Also, they probably won't field any figure skaters. Peslyak says Soviet figure skaters are not believed to be on competitive par.

Peslyak says the Soviet Union is not making special arrangements for further selection of team members.

"This year we have been unlucky with winter so we asked all athletes to train where they live," he said. "We shall judge results in January both at the Moscow and Leningrad meets and later in competition in Germany, Switzerland and Austria. And we have accepted a speed skating meet invitation at Davos, Switzerland, Jan. 18-20. Thus we shall have a better look at who the best contestants are."

There is no question about who is going to play hockey for them: the fast, wary Soviet First National team will take on the job and they will be aiming for the title spot. They have had some international competition, in December trouncing Britain's Harringay Racers. The British were hampered by extreme cold which the Russians seemed to thrive on. If it's unseasonably cold in Cortina it will work to the Soviet advantage.

Peslyak is very cagey about making any forecasts on how Russia will do. He points out that this is the Soviet Union's first appearance in winter Olympics—after having made a massive bow at Helsinki in 1952 in the Olympics—and isn't taking any chances.

Sid Smith Unable To Score Without Playmaker Kennedy

By The Canadian Press

Sid Smith has skidded from all-star prominence to near-obscurity among National Hockey League scorers in a few months.

It was only last season that Smith, 30-year-old veteran with Toronto Maple Leafs, was acclaimed the outstanding left winger in big time hockey. He scored 33 goals in 70 games.

So far this season he has produced only one goal in 34 engagements. An incredible slump.

"If I could just get a couple of goals I'm sure I could get rolling again," Smith said Friday as Leafs worked out in preparation for tonight's game against the last-place Boston Bruins. "I guess I'm pressing even though I'm not trying to."

MISSES TED'S HELP

What's the reason for Smith's dismal showing? Many say it goes back to the retirement of workhorse centre Ted Kennedy, who set Smith up for many goals. Kennedy quit hockey after last season.

"Smitty used to score most of his goals from directly in front of the net," Leaf general manager Hap Day says. "He was always in position to bat in or tip in a pass. How many times do you see him in front of the goal any more?

"In past years he always had Kennedy to do the digging for him and get the puck out. Now Smith has to do a lot of that digging himself."

In an effort to help Sid, Leafs will shift him to right wing on power plays.

"I'd like to give him a little more work because I can see signs of the old Smith starting to show again," said coach King Clancy. "But don't misunderstand me. I'm not planning any complete conversion or even thinking of a permanent job on the power play for him. We're deep enough on right wing without trying to crowd it."

If Leafs happen to ditch Sid there's at least one other coach who'll be glad to sign him. Boston coach Milt Schmidt says:

"I wish Leafs would give up on him. I'd take him on my team any day, slump or no slump. He's a wonderful hockey player caught in the old trap of needing work but not being able to get it until he produces."

Schmidt has troubles of his own. Two Bruins will miss tonight's game in Toronto. Defenceman Leo Boivin is out with a groin injury and forward Vic Stasiuk is convalescing from phlebitis, a circulatory ailment.

Bruins have won only two games in their last 24 and are on an eight-game losing streak. Leafs are in fourth place with 33 points, eight ahead of Boston and one up on the fifth-spot Chicago Black Hawks.

In the only other game tonight the Hawks clash with the league-leading Canadiens at Montreal.

On Sunday, it's Chicago at New York and Boston against the Wings at Detroit.

Canadiens have 55 points, a comfortable 11-point lead over Rangers. The Wings are third with 39.

THE PRETTIEST BOSSES in baseball are Jean Martini, 21 (left), new owner of the Hamilton (Canada) Red Wings, and Carol Hodge, 22, her general manager. Miss Martini has taken over a majority stock interest in the Class D Pony League club, of which her uncle, Emilio Tatti, is president. The girls are showing the Pony League pennant and trophy which they've vowed to retain for the Red Wings.

Regals Drop Opener As Brandon Team 2-1

By The Canadian Press

Brandon hockey fans are still holding out hope for their new team.

The Regals come home tonight to play their second game as a Brandon entry in the Western Hockey League.

The debut of the former Regina squad Friday night was a close 2-1 loss to Winnipeg Warriors, another fledgling team which kept its three point edge over Edmonton Flyers' last year's league leaders, in the standings.

Calgary still heads the Prairie circuit with 52 points, five more than Winnipeg, although they were idle Friday.

It was a happy night for another new team—Seattle Americans.

They gave the high-riding Vancouver Canucks their first big fright of the season on home ice by toppling the giants 4-2. The effort still leaves Seattle in the coast cellar but it broke the Canucks' 10-game win streak.

Marcel Pelletier, volatile Victoria netminder, shut out New Westminster Royals 4-0 in the British Columbia capital and in Edmonton the Flyers kept ahead of Saskatoon Quakers 4-2.

Brandon worried Winnipeg's Ed Chadwick all night but was unable to get past him until 15:45 of the second period. Norm Johnson did the trick. Hugh Barlow set up a 2-0 Warrior lead before that.

The Regals came very close at the end. Lucien Dechene was taken out of the net and Brandon drove five hard shots on Chadwick in the last 1:55 of play. The Warrior goalie remained unrattled.

THEATRICAL SHRINE

The original Globe theatre in London drew crowds for Shakespeare's plays 350 years ago.

U.S. Runner Shatters Landy Mark

MELBOURNE (AP) — Lon Spurrier, American holder of the world half-mile record, shattered John Landy's Australian 1,000-metre record in a special race at Olympic Park today.

Spurrier's time of 2:23.8 was 7.5 seconds better than the Australian mark held by Landy, world mile record holder, and was only 4.8 seconds outside the world 1,000-metre mark held by Hungary.

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Grant Warwick Leads Vs To 9th Win In 10 Starts

By The Canadian Press

Spokane Flyers head home today after a hockey tour through the Okanagan. They lost two games and won two against the B.C. interior squads.

Punching home two goals in a rousing third period in Vernon Friday night, they stole a 4-3 win over Canadians.

Coach Grant Warwick collected four goals for Penticton Vs in their ninth win in 10 starts as the world champs downed Kelowna Packers 5-2 in the peach city.

Nelson Maple Leafs stayed out in front by four points in the Western International Hockey League by dumping Kimberley Dynamiters 5-1.

Lorne Nadeau broke the Spokane-Vernon tie with only 23 seconds left in the game. Tom Hodges sent the Flyers into the lead with a first-period goal and he repeated six minutes into the second.

Dick Warwick added one goal to brother Grant's four in the OSHL encounter.

Moe Young and Jim Middleton provided Kelowna's points.

B. Hyndman Top Kegler

Betty Hyndman of Annettes took top bowling honors Tuesday as the Ladies' Five Pin Bowling League resumed kegling activities following the holiday recess.

The "A" division bowler posted a 320-game that took players' high single and also rolled a 745 three-game total good for player's high three.

Annettes also took team high single game for "A" league with a 1020 score, while New Laurel won team high three with a total score of 2729.

In "B" league, Iris Clark of Pacific Cabs took players' high single with a 304 game while Margaret Logan of Hopefuls took individual high three with a 720 three-game total.

Pacific Cabs also captured both team honors with a single game score of 945 and a three-game total of 2675.

RESULTS:

"A" League— New Laurel 4, Stars 0; G & A 2, Super Valu 2; Rupert Radio 3, Jeannies 1; Sunrise 2, Annettes 2; Lyons 3, Dibbs 1; Prince Rupert Plumbers 2, Rupert Butchers 2.

"B" League—Hopefuls 4, Armour Salvage 0; Van's 4, So-Whats 0; Pacific Cabs 4, Radio Cabs 0; McKay's 3, Cook's 1; Universal 3, Big Sisters 1; Credit Union 3, Co-Op 1.

SCENIC LAKE

Loch Katrine in Scotland is closely associated with Sir Walter Scott's poem "The Lady of the Lake."

Inter-School Cage Series Set For Friday

Two Skeena High school basketball teams from Terrace will be in Prince Rupert next Friday to play fixtures against Booth Memorial High school boys and girls teams at the school gym.

Terrace High school boys will meet Booth Rainmakers while Terrace High girls will play Bo-Me-Hi Rainbirds.

Personnel of teams will be announced later.

Mangrum Leading Field After 1st Round At LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The familiar figure of Lloyd Mangrum dominated the scene today as a field of 155 golfers set out in the second round of the $30,000 Los Angeles Open.

The 41-year-old Mangrum, who captured the U.S. Open in 1946 and the Los Angeles Open in 1949-51-53, sent a chill into the younger delegation with a workmanlike five-under-par 66 to lead the first round Friday.

The Apple Valley, Calif., player is no cinch, of course. He had only a one-stroke lead over three lesser known pros, Lionel Hebert of Erie, Pa., John Barnum of Belmont, Mich., and Cecil Harris of nearby Whittier.

But Mangrum is the man to overhaul, and faced with the overhauling task were such stars as Cary Middlecoff, Mike Souchak, Dutch Harrison, Frank Stranahan and last year's winner, Gene Littler.

Harrison and Stranahan were three strokes off the pace. Middlecoff and Souchak were four shots behind. Littler, along with Tommy Bolt and others, was five strokes behind Mangrum.

Al Balding of Toronto came up with a 70, carding a 36 on the first nine and a 34 on the second.

He won the Miami Open last month to become the first Canadian ever to win a U.S. pro golf tournament.

Jack Fleck, U.S. Open champion, only managed a 73, matched by Art Wall, Jr.

Tonight the field will be cut to 90.

Single Meets For Marksmen

The Civic Centre Rifle Club will, for the next week or so, hold its meetings only on Tuesday evenings, as Thursday night instructor Tommy Boulter, jr., is convalescing following an accident.

Dick Paul will continue to instruct both classes at the single Tuesday session.

At the club's regular shooting session Thursday, Ray Windle, competing for his gold pin, shot an almost perfect target of 99 per cent.

High scoring marksmen competing for their bronze pins were Peter Koughan 87, Peter Hetland 85, Robert Ericksen 84 and Wally Ballinger 83.

Ex-Coach Dies

TORONTO (AP) — Milton G. Burt, 55, former Ontario football player and coach, died Friday in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., it was learned here.

Born in St. John's, Nfld., and educated in Toronto, he played for Toronto Argonauts in the Interprovincial Rugby Football Union in the 1920's. Later he coached football at Queen's University, Kingston, Trinity College, Port Hope, Ont., and for Sarnia Imperials of the Senior Ontario Rugby Football Union.

ON THE TRAIL OF DEER at Hyannis, Mass., is 96-year-old Edward Sumner Gibbs, who goes hunting every year despite his age. He has a little trouble getting around, but come hunting season and Gibbs grabs his shotgun and heads for the woods.

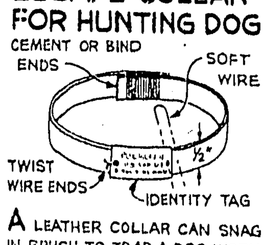
HISTORIC TRADE

More of the exports of Norway, Sweden and Denmark go to Britain than to any other country.

MAURICE (ROCKET) RICHARD gives a lusty cheer after scoring the 500th goal of his National Hockey league career. Richard scored as Montreal Canadiens defeated Toronto Maple Leafs 5-2 in Montreal. Toronto defenceman Billy Harris stands with the Rocket. (CP Photo)

SPORTSMAN'S DIGEST By hal sharp

ESCAPE COLLAR FOR HUNTING DOG



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Notice to Truckers

Pursuant to Section 62 of the Highway Act, the Copper River Suspension Bridge, five miles east of Terrace on the Northern Trans Provincial Highway, is restricted to maximum gross loads of five tons and to speeds of five miles per hour until Sunday midnight, January 8th, 1956, due to structural failure.

R. S. CUNLIFFE
Divisional Engineer

By Authority
Minister of Highways

Court House,
Prince Rupert, B.C.
January 4th, 1956.